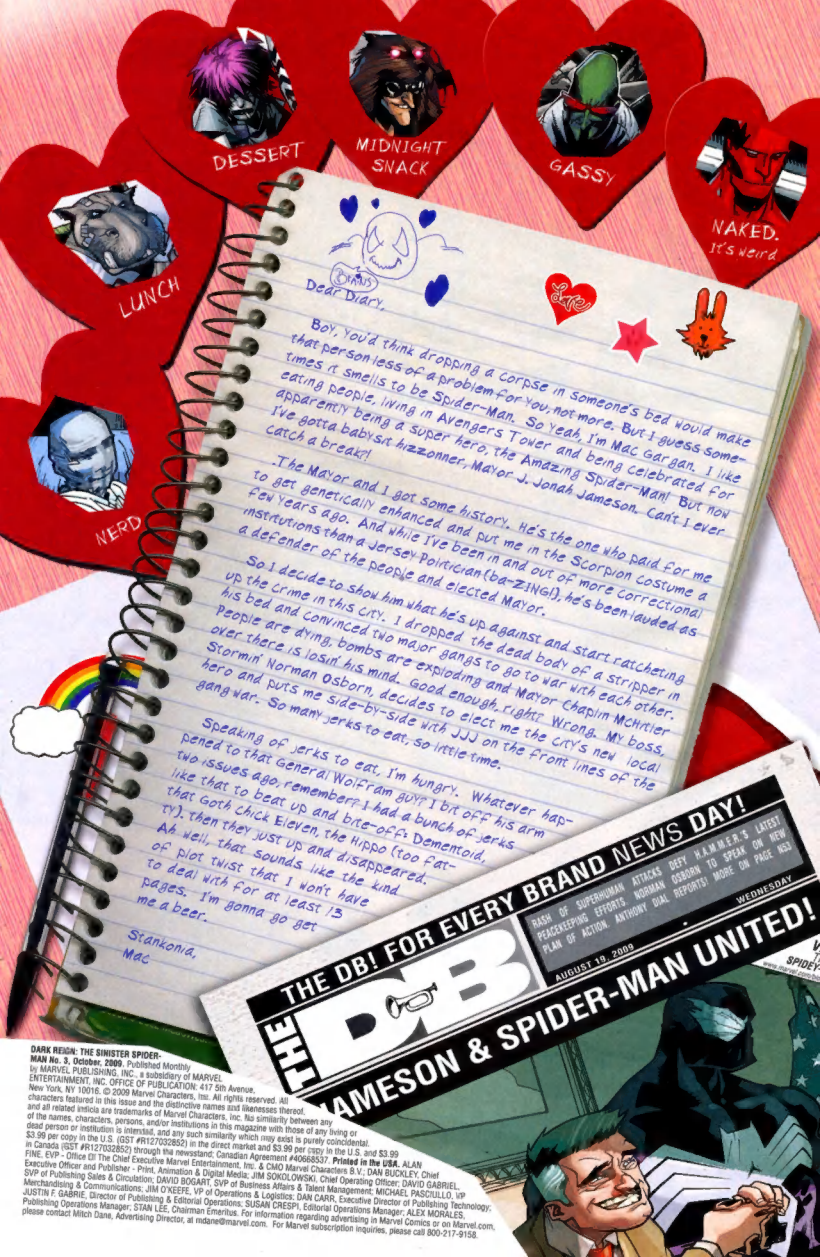
DESSERT
MIDNIGHT SNACK
GASSY
NAKED. It's weird
LUNCH
NERD
Dear Diary,
Boy, You'd think dropping a corpse in someone's bed would make that person less of a problem for you, not more. But I guess sometimes it smells to be Spider-Man. So yeah, I'm Mac Gargan. I like eating people, living in Avengers Tower and being celebrated for apparently being a super hero, the Amazing Spider-Man! But now I've gotta babysit hrzzonner, Mayor J. Jonah Jameson. Can't I ever catch a break?!
The Mayor and I got some history. He's the one who paid for me to get genetically enhanced and put me in the Scorpion costume a few years ago. And while I've been in and out of more correctional institutions than a Jersey Politician (ba-ZING!), he's been lauded as a defender of the people and elected Mayor.
So I decide to show him what he's up against and start ratcheting up the crime in this city. I dropped the dead body of a stripper in his bed and convinced two major gangs to go to war with each other. People are dying, bombs are exploding and Mayor Chaplin McHitler over there is losin' his mind. Good enough, right? Wrong. My boss, Stormin' Norman Osborn, decides to elect me the city's new local hero and puts me side-by-side with JJJ on the front lines of the gang war. So many jerks to eat, so little time.
Speaking of jerks to eat, I'm hungry. Whatever happened to that General Wolfram guy? I bit off his arm two issues ago, remember? I had a bunch of jerks like that to beat up and bite-off: Dementoid, that Goth chick Eleven, the Hippo (too fat-ty), then they just up and disappeared. Ah well, that sounds like the kind of plot twist that I won't have to deal with for at least 13 pages. I'm gonna go get me a beer.
Stankonia,
Mac
THE DB! FOR EVERY BRAND NEWS DAY!
THE DB
WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 19, 2009
AMESON & SPIDER-MAN UNITED!

DARK REIGN: THE SINISTER SPIDER-MAN No. 3, October, 2009. Published Monthly by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. **Printed in the USA.** ALAN FINE, EVP - Office Of The Chief Executive Marvel Entertainment, Inc. & CMO Marvel Characters B.V.; DAN BUCKLEY, Chief Executive Officer and Publisher - Print, Animation & Digital Media; JIM SOKOLOWSKI, Chief Operating Officer; DAVID GABRIEL, SVP of Publishing Sales & Circulation; DAVID BOGART, SVP of Business Affairs & Talent Management; MICHAEL PASCIULLO, VP Merchandising & Communications; JIM O'KEEFE, VP of Operations & Logistics; DAN CARR, Executive Director of Publishing Technology; JUSTIN F. GABRIE, Director of Publishing & Editorial Operations; SUSAN CRESPI, Editorial Operations Manager; ALEX MORALES, Publishing Operations Manager; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Mitch Dane, Advertising Director, at mdane@marvel.com. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.
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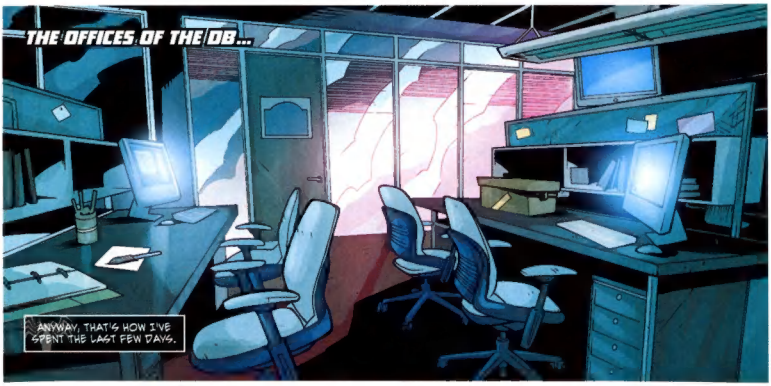
ALL RIGHT, ONE MORE TIME FOR THE SLOW CROWD.
SLEEPY
NYC

THESE TWO GANGS, YEAH? THE ROLLING SEVENS...

AND THE PARK AVENUE PLAYERS.

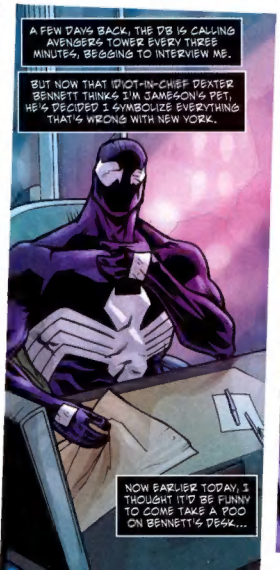
THEY'RE BOTH A BUNCHA NO-GOOD LOSERS, DEEP INTO DRUGS AND HOOKERS AND KILLING AND STEALING AND ALL THE THINGS YOU HEAR ABOUT ON TV.

I might've (maybe, kinda) started a citywide war between these two gangs a few days back.
See, I convinced both sides the other one was making a play on their territory.
These mopes ain't the brightest bunch on the streets, so convincing them to kill one another wasn't exactly the hardest trick to pull off.
But here's a tip for anybody looking to stir up some crazy-- if you start spinning plates, you gotta keep 'em spinning or they fall down.
You gotta maintain the trouble you've started.
You gotta spread rumors, tell lies, make everybody think the rest of the world is out to get 'em.

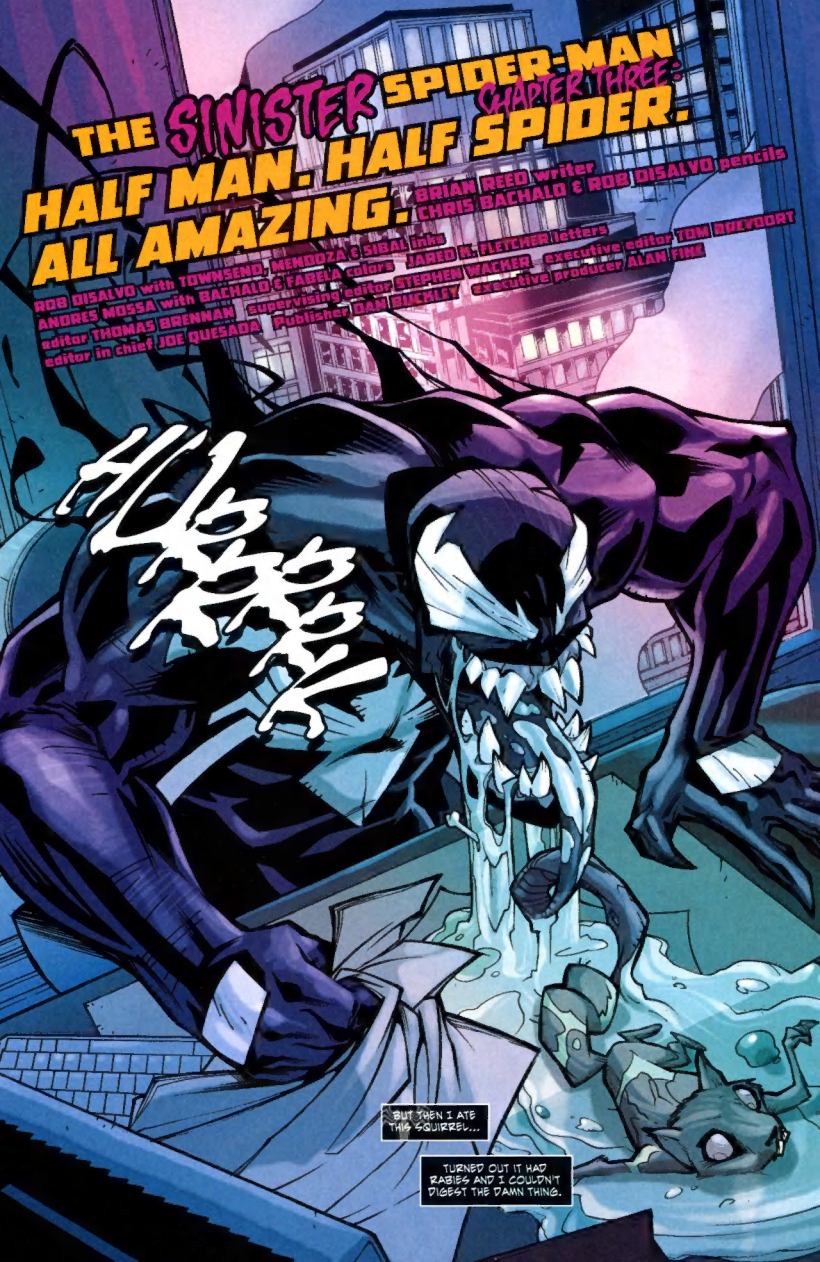

THE OFFICES OF THE DB...
ANYWAY, THAT'S HOW I'VE SPENT THE LAST FEW DAYS.

I THINK IT'S WORKING OUT PRETTY WELL, TOO.
NYC
THE 1ST ANNUAL BIG APPLE FESTIVAL!
A CELEBRATION OF NEW YORK!
MAY 14-15 TIMES SQUARE
THE DB
FINAL 75 CENTS
J. JONAH FLIP-FLOP!
FORMER "MENACE" NOW

J. JONAH JAMESON'S APPROVAL RATINGS ARE DROPPING LIKE MY PANTS AT ANY PUBLIC FUNCTION, AND EVERYBODY THINKS HE'S TRYING TO HIDE BEHIND ME.
THE DB
EVERYBODY BUT THE DB THAT IS.


A FEW DAYS BACK, THE DB IS CALLING AVENGERS TOWER EVERY THREE MINUTES, BEGGING TO INTERVIEW ME.
BUT NOW THAT IDIOT-IN-CHIEF DEXTER BENNETT THINKS I'M JAMESON'S PET, HE'S DECIDED I SYMBOLIZE EVERYTHING THAT'S WRONG WITH NEW YORK.
NOW EARLIER TODAY, I THOUGHT IT'D BE FUNNY TO COME TAKE A POO ON BENNETT'S DESK...

GLURGLE


THE SINISTER SPIDER-MAN
CHAPTER THREE:
HALF MAN. HALF SPIDER.
ALL AMAZING.
BRIAN REED writer
CHRIS BACHALO & ROB DISALVO pencils
ROB DISALVO with TOWNSEND, MENDOZA & SIBAL inks
ANDRES MOSSA with BACHALO & FABELA colors
JARED K. FLETCHER letters
editor THOMAS BRENNAN supervising editor STEPHEN WACKER executive editor TOM BREVOORT
editor in chief JOE QUESADA publisher DAN BUCKLEY executive producer ALAN FINE
HURRRK
BUT THEN I ATE THIS SQUIRREL...
TURNED OUT IT HAD RABIES AND I COULDN'T DIGEST THE DAMN THING.

THE NEXT MORNING...
GOOD MORNING, MS. BRANDO.
IT'S STILL "BRANT," MISTER BENNETT.
AMTOWER! IS THE BACK-GROUND CHECK INTO JAMESON'S DEAD HOOKER IN MY INBOX?
E-MAILED IT FIVE MINUTES AGO, MISTER BENNETT.
BY THE WAY, SHE WAS A STRIPPER, NOT A--
WE'LL CALL HER A "SEX WORKER" THEN.
THAT SOUNDS BETTER ANYWAY. MORE POLITICALLY CORRECT THAN "HOOKER" DON'T YOU THINK?
IT'S NOT EXACTLY ACCURATE--
WHEN I WANT ACCURATE, I'LL ASK FOR IT.
RIGHT NOW I WANT SOME COFFEE AND A--
FROM YOUR F-N-SPIDER-MAN
I WISH I COULDA SEEN THE LOOK ON DENTURD'S FACE...

...INSTEAD OF LISTENING TO J. JONAH JACKASS.
I WAS GONNA KILL HIM.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO BE DOING, EXACTLY?
THEN I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE FUNNIER TO WATCH HIM SQUIRM WHILE NEW YORK FELL APART AROUND HIM.
MISTER MAYOR? THE PLANNING--
THERE'S A GANG WAR GOING ON!
YOU GOT POLICE, YEAH?
THE PLANNING COMMITTEE--
WE HAVE SPIDER-MAN!
AND I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO SNAP MY FINGERS AND SOLVE ALL YOUR PROBLEMS?
YOU WANT ME TO CALL OSBORN?
TELL HIM YOU'RE LOUNGING AROUND HERE AND NOT OUT STOPPING--
STARTING TO THINK I SHOULDA JUST ATE HIM ALREADY.

YOU BEGGED FOR MS. MARVEL AND YOU GOT ME.
WHICH IS GOOD, BECAUSE I GOT AN ADORING PUBLIC AND ALL SHE'S GOT IS CRABS.
SIR? THE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR---
SO YOU GO KVETCH TO OSBORN--TELL HIM YOU AIN'T HAPPY WITH MY JOB PERFORMANCE.
YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S GONNA DO?
HE'S GONNA TELL ME TO COME BACK TO THE TOWER AND STAY OUTTA YOUR WAY.
THEN WHO YOU GOT TO BLAME ALL YOUR TROUBLES ON?
BACK IN THE WAR?
I TORE A MAN'S EYEBROW OFF WITH MY TEETH.
I STILL WEAR IT!
'ZAT A THREAT?
MR. MAYOR...
WHAT?! DO?! YOU?! WAAAAAANT?!
SIR? THE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR--
RIGHT! YES! FINE!

YOU WANT TO SIT AROUND CITY HALL ALL DAMN DAY!
GOOD! YOU'RE COMING TO THIS PLANNING MEETING!
HEY, WHAT YOU PLANNING FOR?
THE--THE FESTIVAL.
PRETEND LIKE I DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO ANYTHING I'M NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN AND EXPLAIN THAT IDEA.
THE BIG APPLE FESTIVAL.
WE'VE BEEN PLANNING IT SINCE MAYOR JAMESON WAS ELECTED.
NOW IT'S THIS WEEKEND, AND WE HAVE TO IRON OUT THE SECURITY DETAILS WHICH ARE JUST CRAZY NUTS WHAT WITH THE GANG WAR.
NYC
THE 1ST ANNUAL
BIG APPLE FESTIVAL!
A CELEBRATION OF NEW YORK!
MAY 14-15 TIMES SQUARE
HEH.
DID YOU JUST LAUGH?
MAYBE.

I'M NOT SUGGESTING A DRESS CODE, PER SE--BUT IF THE GANGS WEAR COLORS WE CAN IDENTIFY THEM BY...
TOOT TOOT.
I TOLD YOU TO SIT IN THAT CHAIR!
I DO MY BEST WORK ON THE CEILING.
MY HEART
YOU'RE NOT WORTH THE TROUBLE! GET OUT!
I DON'T NEED YOU OR YOUR--
SIRR CHIEF IBANEZ IS HERE. HE NEEDS TO SEE YOU--
I SHOULD LET THE CHIEF KNOW I'LL BE HEADING HOME AND NOT HELPING KEEP THE CITY SAFE FROM CRIME OR ANYTHING--
JUST GO! NOW! ONLY A MENTALLY DAMAGED FOOL WOULD WANT YOU HERE!

THANK GOD SPIDER-MAN'S HERE.
CHIEF [redacted] SEE YA. WHAT'S WITH ALL THE FACIAL HAIR? AIN'T ANYONE HEARD'A "MAN-GROOMER?"
[redacted], I WAS ACTUALLY JUST LEAVING.
NO! WE NEED YOU!
WE JUST GOT A CALL--A BOMB THREAT. THEY SAY THERE IS A NUCLEAR DEVICE INSIDE MANHATTAN AND THEY WILL DETONATE IT IF ANYONE BUT SPIDER-MAN COMES NEAR THE BUILDING.
VERY FEW MEN J. JAMESON SMELLED TROUBLE RIGHT THERE AND THERE.
WHY ME IN PARTICULAR?
WE DON'T KNOW YET. BUT WE'D LIKE YOU TO INVESTIGATE FOR US IF YOU WOULD.
I'LL DO THIS ONE FOR [redacted]
BUT I'M GONNA NEED SOME BACK-UP...
WE'LL SPARE NO EXPENSE.
OH FER CRYIN' OUT LOUD...

FOR THE RECORD, YOU
YORK
POLICE SEND
YOU GOT ON A CALL?
IT COSTS THE CITY SOMEWHERE NORTH OF TWO MILLION BUCKS.
YEAH... MAYBE LETTING JAMESON LIVE IS FUNNIER.

ALL RIGHT, I'LL TAKE IT HERE!
LIKE I WAS SAYING... I SHOULDA KNOWN SOMETHING WAS UP.
WHY CALL ME OUT IN PARTICULAR, ESPECIALLY WITH A NUCLEAR WEAPON?

OKAY... WHO --UPPOSED TO BE?
DEMENTOID
GENERAL WOLFRAM
SPIDER-MAN, I AM THE REDEEMER!
I COME TO YOU WITH AN ULTIMATUM!
ELEVEN
DOCTOR EVERYTHING
THE HIPPO
AND JUST LIKE THAT-- I LOST ALL INTEREST.
I GOT HALF THE NYPD OUT HERE. THEY'LL WANT TO TALK TO CO GUYS.
YOU WILL MEET OUR DEMANDS, OR--
OR--
WE'LL PUT YOU DOWN!
DEMANDS?
HANG ON A SECOND. I HAVE A LIST.
YOU WILL ISSUE A PUBLIC APOLOGY TO YOUR VICTIMS.
YOU WILL AGREE TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN ANGER MANAGEMENT CLASSES.
YOU WILL DONATE AN AMOUNT OF TIME TO BE DETERMINED-- BUT TO BE NO LESS THAN 1,000 HOURS-- TO CHARITY WORK.
OR I COULD JUST KILL ALL OF YOU.
SEE? THAT'S NOT AT ALL THE SPIRIT OF THIS DISCUSSION.
YOU ARE FASCINATING.
WHEN I LOOK AT YOU, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU.
NOTHING!
I CANNOT PREDICT YOUR BEHAVIOR OR YOUR--
MAYBE [illegible] STEP
TAKE [illegible] NAKED SELF BACK OVER THERE WITH [illegible]
OH, SCREW THIS--

LET'S KILL HIM NOW!
KLANG!
OH **** THAT **** WAS SO **** I OUGHTA **** YOU RIGHT **** UPSIDE THE **** WITH YOUR **** OWN **** ****
DIE ALREADY!
CHOMP
WHO'S NEXT?!

CLUNK
ENOUGH!
I WILL SEAL YOUR MOUTH AND THOSE TEETH WILL NOT HARM ANOTHER SOUL.
THESE IDIOTS THINK SYMBIOTE ONLY GOT ONE MOUTH?
I GOT HIM!
I GOT HIM!
OH! MY! G--
AHHHHHHH!
THE SYMBIOTE'S GOT AS MANY MOUTHS AS IT NEEDS.

KRUNCH
OH, GOD! WHY?!
YAHHH!
UNF!
BASH
OH, SCREW THIS NOISE! I'M OUTTA—
THWACK
UNFFF!
KRUNCH
HELP
I'M... IN... HIS... SPHINCTER...

20 MINUTES LATER...
ALL I FOUND WAS THIS GUY.
I THINK HE'S MAGIC OR SOMETHING? DUNNO.
LOOKED EVERYWHERE. I DIDN'T SEE ANY BOMBS OR NOTHING.
JUST HIS BAIT AND TACKLE.
POLICE
-URP-
YEAH, ANYWAYS...
AVENGERS ASSEMBLED AND ALL THAT.
BROOKLYN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL. LATER...
HE ATE THE OTHERS. TURNED DOCTOR EVERYTHING OVER TO THE POLICE...
WHY DID HE LET THE THREE OF US LIVE?
BECAUSE HE LIKES TO TOY WITH HIS FOOD, THIS ONE.

AT LEAST SOME OF HIS FOOD, I MEAN...
LISTEN... PEOPLE...
WE LOST OUR FIRST BATTLE WITH THE SPIDER-MAN, BUT WE HAVE NOT LOST THE WAR.
YOU KNOW WHAT?
I'M WILLING TO CALL IT LOST.
NO. THERE IS A PLAN B.
B.
"BUTTHOLE" STARTS WITH B.
IN THIS ENVELOPE--
IN.
THIS.
ENVELOPE.
OH! RIGHT. SORRY.
IN THIS ENVELOPE IS PLAN B.

CITY HALL.
WHERE DID THESE COME FROM?
I DON'T KNOW, SIR.
ANYBODY ELSE SEEN WHAT'S IN HERE?
YOU JUST OPENED THE ENVELOPE YOURSELF, MISTER MAYOR--
GET OUT. NOW. YOU WERE NEVER HERE TONIGHT. THIS ENVELOPE NEVER CAME.
CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU!
Y-YES SIR.

I'VE GOT YOU NOW, YOU WEB-SPINNING BASTARD.
I'VE GOT YOU NOW.
WILL MAC GARGAN GET OUT OF THIS JAM?!
(probably)

The SINISTER SPIDER-MAIL

Send e-mail to
SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM
(please mark as OKAY TO PRINT)

Welcome back, chumps, to the letter column to end all letter columns – Mac-N-Sieeze with Mac Gargan. Good to be back. Literally nones of you were moved to care about the stolen bike, so we'll move onto your questions. Let's start with a familiar face.

Hey Mac,

Seeing as you're a convicted villain and with all your shady past history before you became Venom, you must have a lot of legal issues. So I have an offer for you: for $35 a month you can receive legal advice and services, as well as identity theft coverage 24-7, all thanks to Pre-Paid Legal Services! And in this day and age, who's not afraid of having their identity stolen?

Orion
San Jose, CA

P.S. Oh yes, my name IS real!

So lemme get this straight, you're trying to convince me to give you my hard-earned $35.00 a month for your "legal advice." And you're still trying to convince me that your name really is "Orion"? Look man, I got a lawyer and it's on the Fed's dime, so thanks but no thanks. That said, if you decide to start designing tricked out vans, I'd totally buy one from a dude named "Orion." Just make sure you have me riding a dragon and playing an electric guitar spray painted on the side.

So Mac,

I know how much you love your "dancers." My question is: if you could have your "lady friend" dress up as any super hero, who would you want her to dress up as?

Sergio
Placedo (it's a real town), Texas

The Tri-Sentinel.

Dear Mac,

You sir are the man. Am I the only guy proud that you're the new Spidey? I always hated that other Spider-Man. Did he ever rip people in half? Did he ever keep the moolah for himself? Could he eat more strippers than a cannibal on pay day? No sir. You're an inspiration to everyone who meets you. You do what you please and get paid to do it. You sir are the man, the myth, the stripper eater.

On to some advice. I recently asked out a girl and she said no. I'll be honest. I wanted to eat at least one of her legs then and there. The thing is she told our mutual friend that she likes me. What should I do?!

Andrew, D
Placentia, CA

Thanks for the kind words, but flattery will get you nowhere, Andrew. Onto your question – well, not sure you wanna eat one of her legs if she actually likes you. She's playing hard to get. I don't know nothing about that kind of situation – women don't put up much of a fight once I come rolling up. I mean – who would? I'm freakin' awesome. But if it'll help a little bit, my suggestion is you take her out for a romantic dinner in the city. I'll swing by and let you mess me up just a bit (not too much – I got a rep to maintain) and then bam – she'll be in love. (I'm not responsible if you lose an ear in the process. Or if she runs off with me. In fact, just assume she'll run off with me.)

Dear Mac,

Been having some girl trouble, Mac, and you seem like the kind of Spidey that might be able to help. Two years ago I met a girl and we really hit it off, only problem was that we live in two different states very far from each other. So nothing really came of our romance. But a couple months ago she contacted me and we started making plans to see each other again. She mentioned that she recently broke up with some jerk, and that she needed to get with better guys (like me). A few weeks went by and I tried to give her a call so we could go further in our planning. But she didn't answer, and since then she has failed to answer any other calls or messages I sent on a certain social network site. Now I've been doing some monitoring of her online profile, and I think it's safe to assume she got back together with her ex. I just can't forget about her, I know I didn't do anything wrong and I really wanted to see her again! What should I do, Mac? BTW, I think her ex's name is John and they live in Michigan. If you're hungry I might know more about where to find him.

Thanks,

Riley
Seattle, WA.

Jeez, two girl problem letters in a row? I think that brings the number of fans who date girls up to an all time high of…two. Anyway, Riley, you sound like an alright guy. And that might be your problem. Don't get me wrong – I'm not going for that whole "nice guys finish last" garbage. I'm a pretty nice guy, and I'm doin' great. Sure, you might not think I'm very nice, but stack me up against my pals on the Dark Avengers (not sure why we call ourselves that, by the by) – Daken, who gores like 8 dudes a day, Bullseye once killed a kitten stuck in a tree to prove he could, Norman Osborn stole his son's girlfriend and Ares is the freakin' God of War. I'm a regular Tom Hanks compared to those guys.

What I'm saying is you gotta be more than an alright guy – you gotta be a man of action. You gotta show her how much you care. I want you to get out of your house, get on a train to Michigan, hail a cab…ah, jeez, that's too much effort. Let's just go get a beer and hate on her jerk ex-boyfriend. Probably some punk named Trent with an Indie band that's "about to make it!" but he just needs some extra cash and to live with her rent free for a while. Those jerks get all the good girls…

Dear Mac!

I have 5 simple questions that I have from your adventures with the Thunderbolts and current Dark Avengers...You're the best Venom that I'd had ever seen.

Well...Here are the 5 questions!

1. When you were with Thunderbolts, was it an honor to fight with them and learn lessons of life with Norman?

2. Are you really AFRAID to be near Daken in Dark Avengers?

3. It's for only Symby! I need to ask him about Brock...Symby, when you were with him, did you always know that Eddie Brock was sick?

4. As men, let me know the honest truth... did you really like Songbird (Melissa Gold) when you were on T-Bolts?

5. In all that time you were good friends with Norman Obsorn...but do you really trust him as friend or as your boss?

Well, I have to go, it's nice to write this e-mail!

See you soon!

René Solar From Chile

Good name, Rene Solar, you sound like you're one radioactive accident away from terrorizing Tokyo. Anyway, FIVE questions?! Ya think I get paid by the word? Alright, let's get to it:

1) No.
2) No.
3) *NO.*
4) No.
5) No.

Wow, that was easier than I thought. Our last letter is from…a…g-g-girl?!

Dear Gargan,

I love you and your comic book. Like, a lot. Eating hookers has never been classier. My problem is simple. I want to draw lots of pictures of you and the rest of the Dark Avengers, but I also want to draw Namor and zombies and kittens. What should I do? Please continue eating hookers and acting like a terrible person because it fills my life with rainbows and sunshine.

XOXOXO,
Maddy

Well, hello, Maddy. If I'd known I'd be expecting female company, I'd have made sure to use mouthwash on my symbiote's various mouths. Namor, zombies and kittens eh? Sounds like the answer to the Jeopardy question, "What are three things that have never been in my kitchen?" Anywho – if you want me to keep eating strippers and acting like a terrible person, then I want you to keep at drawing. There ain't no silver bullet. If there were, we'd use it on werewolves, not artists. Werewolves are a much bigger threat. Anyway, check out this cool shot of me Maddy drew up for us. Thanks, Maddy!

That's all for this month – come back next time as I fight Bullseye and J. Jonah Jameson goes postal. It's gonna be pretty cool.

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